

### **REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this Patent Application, particularly in view of the above Amendment. No additional claim fee is required for this Amendment as the number of independent claims has not changed, and the total number of claims has not changed.

### **Telephone Interview Summary**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his comments during a telephone interview with the undersigned on 02 April 2009. Applicant understands that the above added claim language, which was approved by the Examiner and his supervisor, places the claims in condition for allowance.

### **Amendment to the Claims**

The independent claims have been amended according to the discussions during the telephone interview. No new matter has been added to the claims by this Amendment. If the Examiner deems any further change is necessary, he is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102**

The rejection of Claims 44, 45, 47, and 49-55 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Müller et al., U.S. Patent 5,562,278, is rendered moot by the above Amendment, which Applicant understands places the claims in condition for allowance.

Serial No.: 10/700,769

**Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103**

The rejection of Claims 46, 48, and 56-66 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Müller et al., U.S. Patent 5,562,278, in view of Meier et al., U.S. Patent 5,657,978, is rendered moot by the above Amendment, which Applicant understands places the claims in condition for allowance.

**Conclusion**

Applicant believes that the above Amendment places this Patent Application into allowable condition and early allowance is respectfully requested. However, should the Examiner detect any remaining issue, Applicant again kindly requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned in an effort to expedite allowance of this Patent Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mark D. Swanson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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